

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07

AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00

COME-00 DLOS-09 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01

ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13

JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01

PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /136 W

-----230833Z 080860 /16

R 221613Z APR 77

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3590

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, EFIS, PLOS

SUBJECT: U.S. FISHING OFF FRENCH GUIANA

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 64, (B) ECA-88, (C) PARIS 6748, (D) EC

BRUSSELS 3515, (E) PARAMARIBO 314, (F) STATE 70908

1. MISSION OFFICER HAD A GENERAL REVIEW OF US FISHING INTEREST OFF FRENCH GUIANA WITH FRENCH PERMDEL OFFICER, FRANCIS LOTT, WHO HAS PLAYED A LEADING ROLE IN GUIDING THE FORMULATION OF COMMUNITY POLICY FOR FISHING OFF FRENCH GUIANA. LOTT CONFIRMED THAT FRANCE IS PERMITTING FISHING OFF FRENCH GUIANA BY THE US FOR 1977 WITHOUT LICENSES OR OTHER CONSERVATION MEASURES THAN THOSE STIPULATED BY THE EC (REFS A&B), PENDING ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED LICENSING REGULATION REPORTED
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REF C. HE SAID THAT, ALTHOUGH THIS REGULATION HAS NOT YET BEEN FORMALLY APPROVED BY THE EC, FRANCE WAS ALSO PERMITTING OTHER TRADITIONAL FISHING COUNTRIES (E.G., JAPAN, KOREA, SURINAM, AND BRAZIL) TO CONTINUE THEIR ACTIVITY ON A PROVISIONAL BASIS. HE COMMENTED THAT THE FRENCH NOTE TO EMBASSY PARAMARIBO (REF E) WAS IN LINE WITH FRENCH POLICY, WHILE

THE STATEMENTS BY THE DOM/TOM OFFICIAL REGARDING IMMEDIATE
LICENSING REQUIREMENTS (REF C) REFLECTED AN "EXCES DE ZELE."

2. LOTT SAID THAT ALTHOUGH FISHING OFF FRENCH GUIANA WAS
OF LOW PRIORITY RELATIVE TO OTHER CURRENT COMMUNITY
FISHERY ISSUES, THE PROPOSED COMMISSION INTERIM REGULA-
TION REGARDING FISHING OFF FRENCH GUIANA WOULD PROBABLY
BE APPROVED BY THE EC COUNCIL WITHIN THE NEXT 2-3
WEEKS. HE NOTED THAT THE UK WOULD PROBABLY EVENTUALLY
AGREE TO THE ISSUANCE OF LICENSES FOR THE AREA BY THE
COMMISSION ALTHOUGH IT WOULD PREFER THAT THE LICENSING
AUTHORITY BE THE PRESIDENCY COUNTRY AS IS REQUIRED FOR
MOST OTHER THIRD-COUNTRY FHSING. THE REGULATION WILL
ALSO HAVE TO BE CHANGED TO REFLECT THE FACT THAT FRANCE,
UNLIKE OTHER MEMBER STATES, CREATED A 200-MILE "ECONOMIC
ZONE" OFF ITS COAST RATHER THAN EXTENDING FISHERY ZONES.
HE STRESSED THAT UNDER THE NEW REGULATION LICENSES WOULD BE
ISSUED ONLY FOR VESSELS REGISTER IN THE FIVE APPROVED
COUNTRIES AND SUGGESTED THAT THE INDUSTRY SHOULD BE
PREPARED TO SUBMIT ITS APPLICATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH
PARA 5 OF REF C TO THE EC AS SOON AS THE EC REGULATION
GOES INTO EFFECT. IN THE MEANTIME, FISHING VESSELS
FISHING OFF FRENCH GUIANA SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE
PREPARED TO SUPPLY TO FRENCH ENFORCEMENT VESSELS OR
LOCAL AUTHORITIES THE INFORMATION ON THEIR FHSING
ACTIVITY STIPULATED IN PARA 7 REF A. LOTT INDICATED
THAT THERE PROBABLY WOULD BE NO ATTEMPT TO REQUIRE
LANDING OF CATCHES IN FRENCH GUIANA BUT STATED THAT
FRANCE IS ANXIOUS TO PHASE OUT JAPANESE AND KOREAN
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FISHING IN THE AREA BECAUSE OF THEIR PRACTICE OF
REMOVING ALL SHRIMP FOR PROCESSING ELSEWHERE. HE
REPEATED EARLIER ARGUMENTS AS TO WHY IT IS IN US INTEREST
TO ACCEPT THAT THERE IS NO SURPLUS SHRIMP OFF FRENCH
GUIANA IN ORDER TO PERMIT THE GRADUAL OUSTER OF
JAPANESE AND KOREAN FISHING COMPETITION. THE MISSION
OFFICER RESPONDED AS AUTHORIZED REF F AND LEFT A COPY
OF THE PAPER GIVEN SIMMONET (REF C).

3. LOTT ADDED THAT BRAZIL STILL REFUSES TO ENTER INTO
DISCUSSIONS ON POSSIBLE REGIONAL SHRIMP FISHING
ARRANGEMENTS. IF BRAZIL DOES NOT PERMIT FOREIGN
FISHERMEN BASED IN FRENCH GUIANA TO FISH IN BRAZIL'S
EXTENDED 200-MILL FISHING ZONE, THE FRENCH GUIANAN FISHING
FLEET AND SHORE-BASED FACILITIES WILL ONLY BE ABLE TO
OPERATE DURING THE SEASON WHEN THE SHRIMP ARE MIGRATING
OFF FRENCH GUIANA; THIS IS NOT ENOUGH TO SUPPORT AN
IMPORTANT INDUSTRY. THE MISSION HAS SUBSEQUENTLY HEARD
THAT THE EC HAS MADE TENTATIVE PLANS TO SEND A FISHING

DELEGATION, DESCRIBED AS A "FACT FINDING MISSION,"
HEADED BY RAYMOND SIMMONET TO BRASILIA APRIL 28-29.
THE MISSION WILL PROBABLY RETURN VIA CAYENNE AND
POSSIBLY PARAMARIBO.

4. WE SUGGEST THAT INTERESTED U.S. FISHING FIRMS
BE INFORMED OF THE ABOVE AND WOULD APPRECIATE ANY
INFORMATION ON THE OUTCOME OF THE SIMMONET MISSION IF
IT TAKES PLACE AS SCHEDULED. HINTON

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